

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
WEDNESDAY, July 11, 2018**

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present in room were Selectpersons Chris Boutwell, Michael Nelson, Town Administrator Steven Ellis, Wendy Bogusz, Executive Assistant, and Rich Kuklewicz (remote participation due to geographic location)

Nelson makes introduction and announces meeting is being taped.

Approve Selectboard Minutes of June 18 and 25, 2018 if available

Minutes not available

Approve Finance Committee Minutes of June 6, 2018

Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve the Finance Committee minutes of June 6, 2018.

Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye, Nelson – Aye

Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Selectboard will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment

None

Robert McDonald, WPCF Superintendent

Update on Discussion of Dry Weather Event at WPCF on July 5 - 6, 2018

On July 5th about 8:00 PM Pumps failed when automatic transfer went from one pump to another, it created an issue shorting out the control panel that was struck by lightning. From 8:00 PM to 5:00 am the following day water was being discharged through wet weather tank, there is some chlorination that happens when the water is being discharged to the wet weather tank, I estimated approx. 286,000 gallons was discharged to Connecticut river, some of the water was chlorinated but not all of it. As soon as the issue was discovered the lead operator got the pumps running and 9 minutes after he got it running the alarms went out to all the cell phones. Once power was restored to the panel, we received the alarms. I think there was an issue with the alarm system not getting the calls out. We decided to upgrade system in June but due to power surge it didn't really matter. I called DEP and EPA as soon as they opened and instructed me to notify BOH in 5 towns. I followed up with DEP SOS form, so all appropriate papers and description of the event were filed within 5 days. Last year we did install a back up control system in case there was a failure, but the issue was we did not get the alarm to notify people due to the lightning strike. All the parts were in stock and it was repaired by 1:00 PM

Ellis feels one thing that we can do is tighten up our emergency response.

Kuklewicz feels we may want to consider some secondary lighting control if it has been hit in the past.

MGL Chapter 44 §33(b) Transfers, Carolyn Olsen, Town Accountant

\$20,000 from WPCF Debt (661-710) to WPCF Operating (661-440)

Boutwell makes the motion to transfer \$20,000 from WPCF Debt (661-710) to WPCF Operating (661-440). Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye

\$45,000 from Veterans Benefits to General Fund Transfers to WPCF Enterprise Fund

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Boutwell makes the motion to transfer \$45,000 from Veterans Benefits to General Fund Transfers to WPCF Enterprise Fund. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

\$65,000 from Employee Benefits to General Fund Transfers to WPCF Enterprise Fund

Boutwell makes the motion to transfer \$65,000 from Employee Benefits to General Fund Transfers to WPCF Enterprise Fund. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Personnel Board

Appoint Kevin Boissonnault, WPCF Chief Operator, NAGE Grade F, Step 1;

\$54,857/annual; 40 hours/week, Effective July 9, 2018; contingent on physical

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Kevin Boissonnault, WPCF Chief Operator, NAGE Grade F, Step 1; \$54,857/annual; 40 hours/week, Effective July 9, 2018. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Appoint Patrick Murphy, WPCF Laborer, UE Grade B, Step 1; \$17.12/hour,

40 hours/week, Effective July 9, 2018; contingent on physical

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Patrick Murphy, WPCF Laborer, UE Grade B, Step 1; \$17.12/hour, 40 hours/week, Effective July 9, 2018; Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Appoint Matthew Phillips, DPW Custodian, UE Grade A, Step 1; \$14.52/hour,

40 hours/week, Effective July 16, 2018; contingent on physical

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Matthew Phillips, DPW Custodian, UE Grade A, Step 1; \$14.52/hour, 40 hours/week, Effective July 16, 2018; contingent on physical. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Appoint Cody Wells, Full Time Police Officer, NEPBA Grade: Patrol, Step 1 \$22.61/hr; 37.69 hours/week, Effective July 18, 2018

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Cody R. Wells, Full Time Police Officer, NEPBA Grade: Patrol, Step 1 \$22.61/hr; 37.69 hours/week, Effective July 18, 2018. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Approve Employee Credit Card for Christopher Williams, \$5,000

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the Employee Credit Card for Christopher Williams, \$5,000. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Gary Briere, River's Edge Cycling, LLC

Use of Public Property: July 28, 2018, 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Canal side bike path, Avenue A/Montague Road, Millers Falls Road, East Mineral Road, Turners Falls Road, Montague St, L Street

Boutwell makes the motion to approve River's Edge Cycling, LLC, Gary Briere for the Use of Public Property: July 28, 2018, 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Canal side bike path, Avenue A/Montague Road, Millers Falls Road, East Mineral Road, Turners Falls Road, Montague St, L Street. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

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Richard Widmer, Millers Falls Arts Bridge, Use of Public Property: July 28, 2018, 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Sidewalks throughout Millers Falls Center

Boutwell makes the motion to approve, Use of Public Property to Richard Widmer, Millers Falls Arts Bridge on July 28, 2018, 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Sidewalks throughout Millers Falls Center. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Other

MDA Permit

Boutwell makes the motion to approve use of public property to Chris Mason for the Muscular Dystrophy Assoc. Boot Drive at the intersection of 7th St. and Avenue A ON July 14, 2018 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM; approved with \$2,000,000/group coverage. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye

Brian McHugh, FCRHRA

Execute Letter to Mark Southard, DHCD re: FY16 Montague Final Quarterly Report

Boutwell makes the motion to Execute Letter to Mark Southard, DHCD re: FY16 Montague Final Quarterly Report Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Review GMRSD Civic Leaders' Advocacy Letter

Ellis: At the request of G/M School District Superintendent, Michael Sullivan, we began a process of meetings last fall that engaged the Selectboards of both Gill and Montague and the School Committee with invitations to the HART Committee which is working on behalf of Pioneer. The civic leaders in exploring topics related to Chapter 70 Aid became very concerned regarding specific aspects of how those formulations and final allocations to communities are developed; specifically noting what we consider inequities in the distribution of those funds where poorer towns are paying a greater percentage of what they can afford to pay based on the state formula than are comparable more wealthier affluent towns. I believe you looked at his letter at a previous joint meeting with the finance committee and you had concerns that the advocacy letter was a bit potentially divisive in some of the language that was used and you asked for a revision of it. Earlier today the Finance Committee reviewed this letter and moved to endorse it. Which isn't necessarily to sign it, but simply so when this is communicated to legislatures, to other communities or media outlets, it is clear the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee of both Gill and Montague are endorsing the message they are sending. The last paragraph was of greatest concern the last time, it wasn't intended to incite feelings of a battle between rich and poor very specifically it was a focus on the fundamentals of economic equity issues that are at the heart of concern the civic engagement committee had.

Nelson felt it was an excellent letter.

Singleton asked when this was discussed and Ellis responds it was discussed during a joint Selectmen/Finance Committee Meeting.

Singleton feels there are many inadequacies and he would not sign the letter; feels there should be more discussion about it. Vital information is being left out of the letter.

Further discussion about letter with Mike Naughton commenting on his disagreement with Jeff on the points he mentioned

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Kuklewicz makes the motion to endorse the GMRSD Civic Leaders Advocacy Letter. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye

Nelson makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Nelson – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye

Documents and Exhibits:

- Approve Finance Committee Minutes of June 6, 2018
- Transfer for: MGL Chapter 44 §33(b) Transfers, Carolyn Olsen, Town Accountant; \$20,000 from WPCF Debt (661-710) to WPCF Operating (661-440); \$45,000 from Veterans Benefits to General Fund Transfers to WPCF Enterprise Fund; \$65,000 from Employee Benefits to General Fund Transfers to WPCF Enterprise Fund
- Appointment form: Kevin Boissonnault, WPCF Chief Operator, NAGE Grade F, Step 1; \$54,857/annual; 40 hours/week, Effective July 9, 2018; contingent on physical
- Appointment form: Patrick Murphy, WPCF Laborer, UE Grade B, Step 1; \$17.12/hour, 40 hours/week, Effective July 9, 2018; contingent on physical
- Appointment form: Matthew Phillips, DPW Custodian, UE Grade A, Step 1; \$14.52/hour, 40 hours/week, Effective July 16, 2018; contingent on physical
- Appointment form: Cody Wells, Full Time Police Officer, NEPBA Grade: Patrol, Step 1 \$22.61/hr; 37.69 hours/week, Effective July 18, 2018
- Approve Employee Credit Card for Christopher Williams, \$5,000
- Gary Briere, River's Edge Cycling, LLC; Use of Public Property: July 28, 2018, 7:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Canal side bike path, Avenue A/Montague Road, Millers Falls Road, East Mineral Road, Turners Falls Road, Montague St, L Street
- Richard Widmer, Millers Falls Arts Bridge; Use of Public Property: July 28, 2018, 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM, Sidewalks throughout Millers Falls Center
- Letter to Mark Southard, DHCD re: FY16 Montague Final Quarterly Report
- GMRSD Civic Leaders' Advocacy Letter